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## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 

LAWTON – The Economic Development Administration of the United States Department of Commerce <u>announced on Feb. 18</u> that \$2 million in CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant funding would be awarded to the City of Lawton in order to make roadway improvements to Lee Boulevard – a principal arterial that allows access to the Westside Industrial Park, Great Plains Technology Center and Southwestern Medical Center.

The EDA grant, to be matched with an estimated \$5.5 million in local investment, is expected to retain 3,070 jobs. The grant was applied for and secured through the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG), a voluntary association serving Comanche County and seven other counties within the region.

"We are grateful for the complete Congressional delegation that helped make this possible, as well as our community partners at ASCOG," said Lawton Mayor Stan Booker. "They support and understand the importance of quality infrastructure in economic development. This grant funding will provide additional assistance to continue growing and advancing Lawton Fort Sill."

Mayor Booker and the City of Lawton Engineering Department said plans to resurface Lee Boulevard, from Goodyear Boulevard to 67th Street, are 90 percent complete. There is a goal to begin work as early as late Spring.

"I am delighted that the City of Lawton will receive substantial CARES Act recovery assistance to make much needed accessibility updates to Lee Boulevard, which is a critical roadway for healthcare, education and economic opportunities in the community," said Congressman Tom Cole (OK-04).

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